CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A method of treating metabolic bone disease where it is desired to maintain or increase bone mass comprising administering to a patient with said disease an effective amount of 2-methylene-19-nor-20(S)-1 α ,25-dihydroxyvitamin D₃ having the formula:

- 2. The method of claim 1 where the disease is senile osteoporosis.
- 3. The method of claim 1 where the disease is postmenopausal osteoporosis.
- 4. The method of claim 1 where the disease is steroid-induced osteoporosis.
- 5. The method of claim 1 where the disease is a low bone turnover osteoporosis.
 - 6. The method of claim 1 where the disease is osteomalacia.
 - 7. The method of claim 1 where the disease is renal osteodystrophy.
- 8. The method of claim 1 wherein 2-methylene-19-nor-20(S)-1 α ,25-dihydroxyvitamin D₃ is administered orally.

- 9. The method of claim 1 wherein 2-methylene-19-nor-20(S)-1 α ,25-dihydroxyvitamin D₃ is administered parenterally.
- 10. The method of claim 1 wherein 2-methylene-19-nor-20(S)-1 α ,25-dihydroxyvitamin D₃ is administered transdermally.
- 11. The method of claim 1 wherein 2-methylene-19-nor-20(S)-1 α ,25-dihydroxyvitamin D₃ is administered in a dosage of from 0.1 μ g to 10 μ g per day.
- 12. A method of treating psoriasis comprising administering to a patient with psoriasis an effective amount of 2-methylene-19-nor-20(S)-1 α ,25-dihydroxyvitamin D₃ having the formula:

- 13. The method of claim 12 wherein 2-methylene-19-nor-20(S)-1 α ,25-dihydroxyvitamin D₃ is administered orally.
- 14. The method of claim 12 wherein 2-methylene-19-nor-20(S)-1 α ,25-dihydroxyvitamin D $_3$ is administered parenterally.
- 15. The method of claim 12 wherein 2-methylene-19-nor-20(S)-1 α ,25-dihydroxyvitamin D₃ is administered transdermally.
- 16. The method of claim 12 wherein 2-methylene-19-nor-20(S)-1 α ,25-dihydroxyvitamin D₃ is administered topically.

- 17. The method of claim 12 wherein 2-methylene-19-nor-20(S)-1 α ,25-dihydroxyvitamin D₃ is administered in a dosage of from about 0.01 μ g/day to about 10 μ g/day.
- 18. A method of treating leukemia, colon cancer, breast cancer or prostate cancer comprising administering to a patient with said disease an effective amount of 2-methylene-19-nor-20(S)- 1α ,25-dihydroxyvitamin D₃ having the formula:

- 19. The method of claim 18 wherein 2-methylene-19-nor-20(S)-1 α ,25-dihydroxyvitamin D₃ is administered orally.
- 20. The method of claim 18 wherein 2-methylene-19-nor-20(S)-1 α ,25-dihydroxyvitamin D $_3$ is administered parenterally.
- 21. The method of claim 18 wherein 2-methylene-19-nor-20(S)-1 α ,25-dihydroxyvitamin D₃ is administered transdermally.
- 22. The method of claim 12 wherein 2-methylene-19-nor-20(S)-1 α ,25-dihydroxyvitamin D₃ is administered in a dosage of from about 0.01 μ g/day to about 10 μ g/day.
- 23. A method of increasing the strength of a bone comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment an effective amount of 2-methylene-19-nor-20(S)- 1α ,25-dihydroxyvitamin D₃ having the formula:

- 24. The method of claim 23 wherein the bone strength is cortical strength.
- 25. The method of claim 23 wherein the bone strength is trabecular strength.
- 26. The method of claim 23 wherein 2-methylene-19-nor-20(S)-1 α ,25-dihydroxyvitamin D₃ is administered orally.
- 27. The method of claim 23 wherein 2-methylene-19-nor-20(S)-1 α ,25-dihydroxyvitamin D₃ is administered parenterally.
- 28. The method of claim 23 wherein 2-methylene-19-nor-20(S)-1 α ,25-dihydroxyvitamin D₃ is administered transdermally.
- 29. The method of claim 23 wherein 2-methylene-19-nor-20(S)-1 α ,25-dihydroxyvitamin D $_3$ is administered in a dosage of from 0.1 μ g to 10 μ g per day.